

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

September 2014-May 2015



"The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name" (Exodus 15:3).

SYLLABUS

CLASS SCHEDULE:

CLASS 1.	What is Spiritual Warfare?	September
CLASS 2.	Putting on the Armor of God	October
CLASS 3.	Spiritual Warrior Training	November
CLASS 4.	Why Men Fail	January
CLASS 5.	Fighting for yourself	February
CLASS 6.	Fighting for your wife	March
CLASS 7.	Fighting for your children	April
CLASS 8.	Fighting for your brethren	May

CLASS EXPECTATIONS: Each of us are commanded by God to study to show ourselves approved (II Timothy 2:15). It will be expected that each man in this study has read the material in the class reading and is at least prepared to discuss the questions asked. It would be more valuable to have answered the questions ahead of class time. Any reading in parentheses is optional.

GOALS: Each class has a series of goals. These are for personal consideration; although we will discuss them in class, they are for the student alone to accept and use.

CLASS 1: What is Spiritual Warfare?

SEPTEMBER 2014

READING: Exodus 15:3, Psalm 45, I Timothy 1:18-20, II Corinthians 10:3-6, II Timothy 2:3-7, Revelation 19:11-15

SYNOPSIS: The God Jehovah identifies Himself as a God of war. His Son, our Savior, is called both a Prince of Peace and a Warrior. It is no wonder that His servants would be called to be the same. We are locked in a specific kind of warfare even now. We need to discern how this battle is fought and won.

QUESTIONS:

Why is God called a Man of War?

How can Jesus be the Prince of Peace and a God of War at the same time?

According to II Corinthians 10:3-6, what is it that Christian fights?

How do we punish disobedience in ourselves?

What is the mindset of a soldier described in II Timothy 2:3-7?

GOAL:

1. Make the commitment to elevating our spiritual awareness
2. Become aware of the consequences of failing to fight the good fight

CLASS 2: Putting on the Armor of God

OCTOBER 2014

READING: Ephesians 6:10-18, I Thessalonians 5:7-8, Isaiah 11:1-9, Isaiah 59:16-21

SYNOPSIS: Long ago God described Himself (specifically, the Christ) as putting on an armor necessary to fight for His people. We put on the same armor. That armor has three parts: offensive, defensive and maneuverable. We need to know how to be properly equipped for Spiritual Warfare.

QUESTIONS:

Why did God put on the armor first (per Isaiah 59)?

Is putting on Christ (Romans 13:14) the same thing as putting on the armor of God?

Why do soldiers need to be able to maneuver? What items of armor are for our maneuverability?

What are the defensive parts of our armor?

What are the offensive weapons of God?

GOAL:

1. Identify things in our lives that we need to flee
2. Identify things we need to defend against
3. Identify things in our lives we need to take the offensive against

CLASS 3: Spiritual Warrior Training

NOVEMBER 2014

READING: II Timothy 2:1-18, I Peter 1:11, I Corinthians 9:24-27, I Peter 5:8-9, Galatians 3:26-28

SYNOPSIS: All soldiers are brought into basic training. They train to fine tune their bodies. They learn how to handle a weapon. They learn to identify their enemy. So it is with Spiritual Warfare. We need to train our bodies, learn our weapons, and learn to identify our enemies.

QUESTIONS:

Who and what are our enemies?

How do we prepare our bodies for spiritual warfare?

How is handling the Word of God similar to handling a firearm, blade or explosive weapon?

When do we put on the uniform of being a Soldier of Christ?

How can we remove the uniform of Christ?

Why would we need an operational plan as Spiritual Warriors?

GOAL:

1. Identify where we are at in our spiritual training: recruit, trainee, prepared for combat
2. Make a mental training scheme that either we need or we might share with another

CLASS 4: Why Men Fail as Spiritual Warriors

January 2015

READING: II Samuel 11-13

SYNOPSIS: There are many men in the Bible who were spiritual (and physical) warriors. Perhaps the best example is David, who subdued Goliath in physical and spiritual combat. He is also an example to us of a failure at spiritual warfare. He failed in bodily discipline and leadership.

QUESTIONS:

What made David a successful spiritual warrior?

How did David fail as a Spiritual warrior in regards to Bathsheba?

How did David fail as a Spiritual warrior in regards to his sons?

What were the consequences of David's failure as a Spiritual Warrior?

How do we punish disobedience in ourselves?

What is the mind of a soldier described in II Timothy 2:3-7?

GOAL:

1. Self-examination: finding areas in our life that could not be defended from a spiritual attack
2. Learning from David's example

CLASS 5: Fighting for Yourself

February 2015

READING: I Corinthians 9:27, II Corinthians 13-5-7, Titus 1:13-16, Matthew 7:1-5

SYNOPSIS: When a soldier fights, he fights first for his self-preservation. A Spiritual Warrior must first see that he himself is victorious. He cannot help anyone else if he is rendered incapacitated or killed.

QUESTIONS:

Is there a spiritual difference between being incapacitated and being killed as a Spiritual Warrior?

What men in the New Testament lost the battle for themselves?

How can you test yourself to know you have not been disqualified?

How does Jesus teaching on judgment relate to our Spiritual Warfare?

What kinds of enemies does a Spiritual Warrior face in Oregon in 2015?

GOAL:

1. Identify the obstacles that we personally face
2. Learn to create a spiritual operational plan to overcome them

CLASS 6: Fighting for your wife

March 2015

READING: Ephesians 5:25-33, I Peter 3:7, Malachi 2:13-17, (Psalm 45, Genesis 16)

SYNOPSIS: Spiritual warriors fight not only for themselves, but others. If a Spiritual Warrior is married, his spouse is the first person he fights for. She has committed herself to his spiritual protection and leadership. It is vital to know, even before we are married, to be one who leads his partner.

QUESTIONS:

How did/does Jesus fight for His bride in Spiritual Warfare?

What are the difficulties that Godly women face as Christians in Oregon in 2015?

How do we engage in Spiritual Warfare on behalf of our wives?

When men fail to defend their wives in Spiritual Combat, what happens to their wives & to themselves?

In what ways did Abraham fail to wage Spiritual Warfare for Sarah regarding Ishmael?

GOAL:

1. Make ourselves aware of the difficulties our women face in serving God, and then making a plan to engage in Spiritual Warfare in those areas
2. Become aware of the consequences of failing to defend our spouses

CLASS 7: Fighting for your children

April 2015

READING: Ephesians 6:1-4, I Samuel 1:11-17, Psalm 127 (II Chronicles 33-34)

SYNOPSIS: As God fights for His children and redeemed them, so we too fight for our children. While they are given free will, we are taught that we can have a great hand in their spiritual development. Spiritual warriors must identify the enemies their children face, and vanquish them.

QUESTIONS:

What are the enemies of our children in Oregon in 2015?

How do we overcome their enemies?

How did Eli fail as a Spiritual Warrior?

What might the differences be in fighting for our children verses our grandchildren?

Is there a time that it is too late to engage in Spiritual Warfare for our children?

GOAL:

1. Identify the enemies our children and grandchildren face
2. Become aware of the consequences of failing to fight the good fight

CLASS 8: Fighting for your brethren

May 2015

READING: I Timothy 3:1-14, Hebrews 13:7&17, Number 25:6-11, I Corinthians 5:1-8 (I Corinthians 12)

SYNOPSIS: A local congregation is like a fighting group. Soldiers often speak of the vital importance of being able to trust our leaders and trust each other. So, too, we need to learn to trust our leaders and each other in vital matters. We need to be vigilant and jealous for the sanctity and purity of our congregation

QUESTIONS:

How did Phinehas wage spiritual warfare for his brethren, and what was his reward?

Why do we struggle with trust?

What are some examples of waging Spiritual Warfare for our brethren?

How did the brethren in Corinth fail their Spiritual Warfare for each other?

Military units are comprised of soldiers with different specialties; how is this similar to the church?

What are the consequences of failing to fight for our congregation?

GOAL:

1. Identify what our specific and generic role is in our fighting unit
2. Make commitments to wage Spiritual Warfare on behalf of our brethren